

Department of Education					
	Revised FY 2006	Requested FY 2007	Requested FY 2008	Recommended FY 2007	Recommended FY 2008
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>General Fund</b>					
Regular Appropriation	3,391,551,100	3,743,109,100	4,054,031,800	3,555,007,600	3,752,161,200
Continuing Appropriation	7,051,700				
Salary Compensation Fund	1,335,000				
Base Deduction	-4,313,300				
<b>Total General Fund</b>	3,395,624,500	3,743,109,100	4,054,031,800	3,555,007,600	3,752,161,200
<b>Tobacco Settlement-Phase I</b>					
Tobacco Settlement - I	1,888,400	1,923,100	1,946,800	1,388,400	1,508,400
Continuing Appropriation	248,900				
<b>Total Tobacco Settlement-Phase I</b>	2,137,300	1,923,100	1,946,800	1,388,400	1,508,400
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Balance Forward	1,503,000				
Current Receipts	3,440,400	4,873,400	4,894,600	4,831,300	4,831,300
Non-Revenue Receipts		83,300	46,300	5,000,000	5,000,000
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	4,943,400	4,956,700	4,940,900	9,831,300	9,831,300
<b>Federal Funds</b>					
Balance Forward	1,921,800	341,600		341,600	
Current Receipts	462,887,000	464,593,000	464,765,700	464,447,100	464,447,100
Non-Revenue Receipts	222,783,300	222,947,600	223,019,600	222,858,200	222,924,300
<b>Total Federal Funds</b>	687,592,100	687,882,200	687,785,300	687,646,900	687,371,400
<b>TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	4,090,297,300	4,437,871,100	4,748,704,800	4,253,874,200	4,450,872,300
<b>EXPENDITURES BY CLASS</b>					
Personnel Cost	61,900,800	68,925,100	71,596,300	62,609,900	63,411,700
Operating Expenses	18,671,200	44,296,000	43,917,700	24,646,600	34,589,300
Grants, Loans or Benefits	4,006,383,700	4,324,660,600	4,633,203,000	4,166,617,700	4,347,670,300
Debt Service					5,201,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	4,086,955,700	4,437,881,700	4,748,717,000	4,253,874,200	4,450,872,300
<b>EXPENDITURES BY FUND SOURCE</b>					
General Fund	3,392,624,500	3,743,109,100	4,054,031,800	3,555,007,600	3,752,161,200
Tobacco Settlement-Phase I	2,137,300	1,923,100	1,946,800	1,388,400	1,508,400
Restricted Funds	4,943,400	4,956,700	4,940,900	9,831,300	9,831,300
Federal Funds	687,250,500	687,882,200	687,785,300	687,646,900	687,371,400
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	4,086,955,700	4,437,871,100	4,748,704,800	4,253,874,200	4,450,872,300
<b>EXPENDITURES BY UNIT</b>					
Executive Policy and Management	654,300	755,600	788,100	672,000	679,800
Operations and Support Services	42,232,200	69,355,300	69,970,500	52,863,400	68,315,300
Learning and Results Services	1,449,176,500	1,543,715,900	1,616,974,300	1,519,903,400	1,566,059,500
Support Education Excellence in Kentucky (SEEK)	2,594,892,700	2,824,044,300	3,060,971,900	2,680,435,400	2,815,817,700
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	4,086,955,700	4,437,871,100	4,748,704,800	4,253,874,200	4,450,872,300

In enacting the Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA), the 1990 General Assembly provided for a reconstituted Department of Education to implement KERA along with existing programs. In accordance with KRS 156.148, the Department of Education is headed by a Commissioner of Education appointed by the Kentucky Board of Education.

**Department of Education  
Executive Policy and Management**

	<b>Revised FY 2006</b>	<b>Requested FY 2007</b>	<b>Requested FY 2008</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2007</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2008</b>
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>General Fund</b>					
Regular Appropriation	687,900	755,600	788,100	672,000	679,800
Salary Compensation Fund	20,600				
Base Deduction	-54,200				
<b>Total General Fund</b>	654,300	755,600	788,100	672,000	679,800
<b>TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	654,300	755,600	788,100	672,000	679,800
<b>EXPENDITURES BY CLASS</b>					
Personnel Cost	527,800	597,200	629,700	536,900	544,700
Operating Expenses	126,500	158,400	158,400	135,100	135,100
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	654,300	755,600	788,100	672,000	679,800
<b>EXPENDITURES BY FUND SOURCE</b>					
General Fund	654,300	755,600	788,100	672,000	679,800
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	654,300	755,600	788,100	672,000	679,800
<b>EXPENDITURES BY UNIT</b>					
Commissioner	556,100	657,400	689,900	565,200	573,000
Kentucky Board of Education	98,200	98,200	98,200	106,800	106,800
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	654,300	755,600	788,100	672,000	679,800

The Department of Education's Executive Policy and Management function consists of the Commissioner of Education and the Kentucky Board of Education.

The 1990 General Assembly, as part of the Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA), provided in KRS 156.148 for the appointment of a Commissioner of Education by the Kentucky Board of Education to serve as the chief state school officer.

As part of the same legislation, the General Assembly, in KRS 156.029, created an 11 member Kentucky Board of Education. Board members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate and the House of Representatives. Seven members are selected from the state's seven Supreme Court districts and four are appointed from the state at large. Board members serve four-year staggered terms. The Executive Director of the Council on Postsecondary Education serves as an ex officio non-voting board member. Overall policy regarding public elementary and secondary education in Kentucky is set by the Kentucky Board of Education within the legal framework established by the General Assembly.

The Commissioner of Education's qualifications and compensation are set by the Kentucky Board of Education. The Commissioner serves at the pleasure of the Board. The Commissioner is responsible for carrying out all duties assigned by the legislature, for executing education policy as directed by the State Board, and directing the work of all persons employed by the Department of Education.

**Department of Education  
Operations and Support Services**

	<b>Revised FY 2006</b>	<b>Requested FY 2007</b>	<b>Requested FY 2008</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2007</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2008</b>
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>General Fund</b>					
Regular Appropriation	34,200,300	58,492,000	59,123,000	37,125,500	52,577,400
Salary Compensation Fund	258,500				
Base Deduction	-76,600				
<b>Total General Fund</b>	34,382,200	58,492,000	59,123,000	37,125,500	52,577,400
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Balance Forward	345,200				
Current Receipts	1,977,000	2,252,200	2,273,400	2,210,100	2,210,100
Non-Revenue Receipts		83,300	46,300	5,000,000	5,000,000
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	2,322,200	2,335,500	2,319,700	7,210,100	7,210,100
<b>Federal Funds</b>					
Balance Forward	110,700				
Current Receipts	8,417,100	8,527,800	8,527,800	8,527,800	8,527,800
<b>Total Federal Funds</b>	8,527,800	8,527,800	8,527,800	8,527,800	8,527,800
<b>TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	45,232,200	69,355,300	69,970,500	52,863,400	68,315,300
<b>EXPENDITURES BY CLASS</b>					
Personnel Cost	9,750,300	11,824,900	12,478,400	10,088,100	10,337,400
Operating Expenses	4,254,100	29,313,200	29,276,500	9,547,500	19,549,100
Grants, Loans or Benefits	28,227,800	28,227,800	28,227,800	33,227,800	33,227,800
Debt Service					5,201,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	42,232,200	69,365,900	69,982,700	52,863,400	68,315,300
<b>EXPENDITURES BY FUND SOURCE</b>					
General Fund	31,382,200	58,492,000	59,123,000	37,125,500	52,577,400
Restricted Funds	2,322,200	2,335,500	2,319,700	7,210,100	7,210,100
Federal Funds	8,527,800	8,527,800	8,527,800	8,527,800	8,527,800
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	42,232,200	69,355,300	69,970,500	52,863,400	68,315,300
<b>EXPENDITURES BY UNIT</b>					
Deputy Commissioner	231,100	251,400	264,500	241,200	243,100
Internal Administration and Support	9,088,600	10,788,600	11,173,200	14,577,300	29,952,200
Education Technology	30,357,100	55,635,000	55,763,700	35,565,000	35,612,600
Legal and Legislative Services	686,000	721,400	749,700	690,100	695,000
Communications	1,869,400	1,958,900	2,019,400	1,789,800	1,812,400
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	42,232,200	69,355,300	69,970,500	52,863,400	68,315,300

The Operations and Support Services program area consists of the Office of Internal Administration; Office of Education Technology; Office of Legal and Legislative Services; and Office of Communications.

**Department of Education  
Operations and Support Services  
Deputy Commissioner**

	<b>Revised FY 2006</b>	<b>Requested FY 2007</b>	<b>Requested FY 2008</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2007</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2008</b>
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>General Fund</b>					
Regular Appropriation	122,900	251,400	264,500	241,200	243,100
Salary Compensation Fund	117,000				
Base Deduction	-8,800				
<b>Total General Fund</b>	231,100	251,400	264,500	241,200	243,100
<b>TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	231,100	251,400	264,500	241,200	243,100
<b>EXPENDITURES BY CLASS</b>					
Personnel Cost	212,000	232,300	245,400	222,100	224,000
Operating Expenses	19,100	19,100	19,100	19,100	19,100
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	231,100	251,400	264,500	241,200	243,100
<b>EXPENDITURES BY FUND SOURCE</b>					
General Fund	231,100	251,400	264,500	241,200	243,100
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	231,100	251,400	264,500	241,200	243,100

The Deputy Commissioner and associated support staff provide policy and administrative direction for the Operations and Support Services program area. The Deputy Commissioner reports directly to the Commissioner of Education.

**Department of Education  
Operations and Support Services  
Internal Administration and Support**

	<b>Revised FY 2006</b>	<b>Requested FY 2007</b>	<b>Requested FY 2008</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2007</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2008</b>
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>General Fund</b>					
Regular Appropriation	9,950,000	8,672,900	9,033,400	12,547,100	27,922,000
Salary Compensation Fund	114,300				
Base Deduction	-2,700				
<b>Total General Fund</b>	10,061,600	8,672,900	9,033,400	12,547,100	27,922,000
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Balance Forward	219,500				
Current Receipts	1,807,500	2,072,300	2,093,500	2,030,200	2,030,200
Non-Revenue Receipts		43,400	46,300		
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	2,027,000	2,115,700	2,139,800	2,030,200	2,030,200
<b>TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	12,088,600	10,788,600	11,173,200	14,577,300	29,952,200
<b>EXPENDITURES BY CLASS</b>					
Personnel Cost	5,466,300	7,157,700	7,540,700	5,661,600	5,833,900
Operating Expenses	3,622,300	3,641,500	3,644,700	8,915,700	18,917,300
Debt Service					5,201,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	9,088,600	10,799,200	11,185,400	14,577,300	29,952,200
<b>EXPENDITURES BY FUND SOURCE</b>					
General Fund	7,061,600	8,672,900	9,033,400	12,547,100	27,922,000
Restricted Funds	2,027,000	2,115,700	2,139,800	2,030,200	2,030,200
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	9,088,600	10,788,600	11,173,200	14,577,300	29,952,200
<b>EXPENDITURES BY UNIT</b>					
Associate Commissioner	504,600	590,400	613,700	5,809,500	15,813,100
Budgets	694,300	828,900	874,100	756,300	5,967,900
Financial and Materials Management	3,233,700	4,058,300	4,119,100	3,241,300	3,249,500
Teachers' Retirement Match	2,607,800	3,046,800	3,218,100	2,705,600	2,840,900
Administrative Services	1,268,300	1,392,100	1,431,300	1,288,300	1,296,100
Human Resources	587,400	666,300	701,800	595,100	602,300
Project Management	192,500	205,800	215,100	181,200	182,400
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	9,088,600	10,788,600	11,173,200	14,577,300	29,952,200

The Office of Internal Administration and Support consists of the following divisions: Budgets; Financial and Materials Management; Administrative Services; Human Resources; and Project Management.

The Division of Budgets supervises all aspects of budget creation, both annual and biennial, budget analysis and forecasting, expenditure authorizations, personnel approvals, and allotment and appropriation adjustments and increases. The division serves as agency liaison with the Office of State Budget Director and Legislative Research Commission budget staff.

The Division of Financial and Materials Management supervises all expenditure and accounting transactions, purchasing and document preparation, and pre-audit functions. The division serves as liaison with the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Finance and Administration Cabinet and also is the primary department authority for MARS training and implementation.

The Division of Administrative Services is responsible for: insurance, leasing, management of leased property, inventory, telecommunications equipment, copiers, mail, office and furniture moves, receiving and distribution of equipment and

materials, printing, and processing of documents to archives. The division is also responsible for capital project planning, budgeting and administration.

The Division of Human Resources provides personnel and payroll services to department staff. These services include initiation of master agreements with local education agencies as well as administration of the state merit system, Family Medical Leave Act, Workers' Compensation, sick leave sharing, tuition assistance, employee training, Fair Labor Standards Act, Americans With Disabilities Act and all other related employment laws and regulations.

The Division of Project Management advises and assists department leadership in the most efficient and effective means of deploying information technology resources to meet the strategic priorities of the Kentucky Board of Education, Department of Education, and local districts and schools.

## **Policy**

The Governor's budget recommendation includes \$5,201,000 in fiscal year 2008 for debt service in support of three education information technology capital projects. The first project is a \$6.25 million Knowledge Management Portal that will assist educators, students and parents by connecting curriculum, instruction, and assessment with other data generated by schools and the Kentucky Department of Education.

The second project - On-Line Assessment - will cost \$15 million and will provide a platform for on-line student assessment with quick reporting of scores. The project will also introduce diagnostic assessments administered at the classroom level and also the capacity for end-of-course assessments.

The third project is a \$16.1 million P-16 Education Information Technology Integration initiative. The Department of Education, the Education Cabinet, the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), and the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB), have developed an unprecedented joint P-16 Education Information Technology Integration Initiative. This project will accomplish what no single organization can accomplish alone. This initiative has several interrelated components: a Kentucky Education Network (KEN), to provide a faster and higher volume transfer of data and electronic resources to schools connecting local school districts, universities and colleges, and other education agencies together in a single network; the establishment of a learning systems repository accessible electronically to share instructional content modules across all education agencies; a seamless P-16 data repository that allows comprehensive education information to be shared among agencies to better inform policy and decision making; a common course management system; and a unified structure for all virtual education entities.

The Governor's budget recommendation also includes \$5.3 million in fiscal year 2007 and \$15.3 million in fiscal year 2008 within the Deputy Commissioner's office for operational support for the three capital information technology projects.

**Department of Education  
Operations and Support Services  
Education Technology**

	<b>Revised FY 2006</b>	<b>Requested FY 2007</b>	<b>Requested FY 2008</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2007</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2008</b>
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>General Fund</b>					
Regular Appropriation	21,814,100	47,060,000	47,188,700	21,990,000	22,037,600
Salary Compensation Fund	27,200				
Base Deduction	-59,200				
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>21,782,100</b>	<b>47,060,000</b>	<b>47,188,700</b>	<b>21,990,000</b>	<b>22,037,600</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Balance Forward	8,700				
Current Receipts	66,300	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Non-Revenue Receipts				5,000,000	5,000,000
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>5,075,000</b>	<b>5,075,000</b>
<b>Federal Funds</b>					
Balance Forward	104,300				
Current Receipts	8,395,700	8,500,000	8,500,000	8,500,000	8,500,000
<b>Total Federal Funds</b>	<b>8,500,000</b>	<b>8,500,000</b>	<b>8,500,000</b>	<b>8,500,000</b>	<b>8,500,000</b>
<b>TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	<b>30,357,100</b>	<b>55,635,000</b>	<b>55,763,700</b>	<b>35,565,000</b>	<b>35,612,600</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES BY CLASS</b>					
Personnel Cost	1,919,400	2,197,300	2,326,000	2,127,300	2,174,900
Operating Expenses	437,700	25,437,700	25,437,700	437,700	437,700
Grants, Loans or Benefits	28,000,000	28,000,000	28,000,000	33,000,000	33,000,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>30,357,100</b>	<b>55,635,000</b>	<b>55,763,700</b>	<b>35,565,000</b>	<b>35,612,600</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES BY FUND SOURCE</b>					
General Fund	21,782,100	47,060,000	47,188,700	21,990,000	22,037,600
Restricted Funds	75,000	75,000	75,000	5,075,000	5,075,000
Federal Funds	8,500,000	8,500,000	8,500,000	8,500,000	8,500,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>30,357,100</b>	<b>55,635,000</b>	<b>55,763,700</b>	<b>35,565,000</b>	<b>35,612,600</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES BY UNIT</b>					
Associate Commissioner	8,781,700	8,811,200	8,827,700	13,960,200	13,953,100
Engineering Management	810,100	931,900	974,900	828,700	840,700
Operations and Services	1,265,300	1,391,900	1,461,100	1,276,100	1,318,800
Education Technology (KETS)	19,500,000	44,500,000	44,500,000	19,500,000	19,500,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>30,357,100</b>	<b>55,635,000</b>	<b>55,763,700</b>	<b>35,565,000</b>	<b>35,612,600</b>

The Office of Education Technology provides policy and budget planning, liaison services, administration and quality assurance for the Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS). The Office is responsible for KETS shared services for 700,000 direct customers, 1,400 schools, 176 local school districts and the Kentucky Department of Education. The Office consists of two divisions – Engineering and Management, and Operations and Services.

### Policy

The Governor's recommended budget includes \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2007 and \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2008 in increased funding for Kentucky's program of education technology. These funds are to be used to enhance the availability and use of education technology for students in coal-producing counties and school districts.

**Department of Education  
Operations and Support Services  
Legal and Legislative Services**

	<b>Revised FY 2006</b>	<b>Requested FY 2007</b>	<b>Requested FY 2008</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2007</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2008</b>
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>General Fund</b>					
Regular Appropriation	686,000	721,400	749,700	690,100	695,000
<b>Total General Fund</b>	686,000	721,400	749,700	690,100	695,000
<b>TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	686,000	721,400	749,700	690,100	695,000
<b>EXPENDITURES BY CLASS</b>					
Personnel Cost	466,000	501,400	529,700	470,100	475,000
Operating Expenses	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Grants, Loans or Benefits	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	686,000	721,400	749,700	690,100	695,000
<b>EXPENDITURES BY FUND SOURCE</b>					
General Fund	686,000	721,400	749,700	690,100	695,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	686,000	721,400	749,700	690,100	695,000
<b>EXPENDITURES BY UNIT</b>					
Associate Commissioner	486,000	521,400	549,700	490,100	495,000
Management Assistance Program	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	686,000	721,400	749,700	690,100	695,000

The Office of Legal and Legislative Services provides in-house counsel and advice for the Commissioner of Education, all offices of the Department of Education, and the Kentucky Board of Education. The office provides legal representation for the Department of Education and Kentucky Board of Education before administrative agencies and courts of law. It provides informal legal advice to local school districts and members of the general public. The office serves as the Kentucky Department of Education's liaison with the General Assembly.

The Office of Legal and Legislative Services also houses the Management Assistance Program. KRS 158.785 requires the Kentucky Department of Education to conduct a management audit of the governance and administration of a school district when a review of data or other information, including site investigations, indicates the presence of serious deficiencies in district management of an instructional or operational nature. The Commissioner of Education determines whether a comprehensive management audit is warranted. Such an audit examines a district's planning, operational support, fiscal management, personnel administration and instructional management. If the deficiencies documented are serious enough, the Commissioner recommends to the Kentucky Board of Education that the district be declared "state-assisted" or "state-managed." Districts so designated must develop and implement an improvement plan subject to Kentucky Board of Education Approval.



**Department of Education  
Operations and Support Services  
Communications**

	<b>Revised FY 2006</b>	<b>Requested FY 2007</b>	<b>Requested FY 2008</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2007</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2008</b>
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>General Fund</b>					
Regular Appropriation	1,627,300	1,786,300	1,886,700	1,657,100	1,679,700
Base Deduction	-5,900				
<b>Total General Fund</b>	1,621,400	1,786,300	1,886,700	1,657,100	1,679,700
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Balance Forward	117,000				
Current Receipts	103,200	104,900	104,900	104,900	104,900
Non-Revenue Receipts		39,900			
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	220,200	144,800	104,900	104,900	104,900
<b>Federal Funds</b>					
Balance Forward	6,400				
Current Receipts	21,400	27,800	27,800	27,800	27,800
<b>Total Federal Funds</b>	27,800	27,800	27,800	27,800	27,800
<b>TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	1,869,400	1,958,900	2,019,400	1,789,800	1,812,400
<b>EXPENDITURES BY CLASS</b>					
Personnel Cost	1,686,600	1,736,200	1,836,600	1,607,000	1,629,600
Operating Expenses	155,000	194,900	155,000	155,000	155,000
Grants, Loans or Benefits	27,800	27,800	27,800	27,800	27,800
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	1,869,400	1,958,900	2,019,400	1,789,800	1,812,400
<b>EXPENDITURES BY FUND SOURCE</b>					
General Fund	1,621,400	1,786,300	1,886,700	1,657,100	1,679,700
Restricted Funds	220,200	144,800	104,900	104,900	104,900
Federal Funds	27,800	27,800	27,800	27,800	27,800
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	1,869,400	1,958,900	2,019,400	1,789,800	1,812,400
<b>EXPENDITURES BY UNIT</b>					
Associate Commissioner	801,100	783,300	778,300	694,100	700,300
Publications/Web Services	677,400	746,700	787,800	698,400	709,400
Video/Multimedia Services	390,900	428,900	453,300	397,300	402,700
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	1,869,400	1,958,900	2,019,400	1,789,800	1,812,400

The Office of Communications consists of two divisions: Publications and Web Services and Video and Multimedia Services. The Office is responsible for print, broadcast, Internet and other electronic information programs for educators, legislators, the education community and the general public. The Office is also responsible for media services for professional development, news media relations for the Commissioner and the Department of Education, awards and recognition activities, event planning and school visits and statewide tours by the Commissioner.